

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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O R 131504Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2473

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBQSSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1800

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFMR, SF, WA, BC

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA REPORTS ON LUANDA FRONTLINE MEETING

REF: (A) DARESSALAAM 2501, (B) LUSAKA 2078

1. UK HIGH COMMISSIONER, FRG AMBASSADOR AND CHARGE' WERE BRIEFED JUNE 13 BY MINISTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE AND BROADCASTING KWELAGOB, MINEXTAFF PERMSEC MPOTOKWANE (BOTH OF WHOM WHO HAD ATTENDED LUANDA SUMMIT), AS WELL AS MINISTER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MOGWE AND STAFFERS. KWELAGOB GAVE DESCRIPTIVE BRIEFING CLOSELY PARALLELING SUBSTANCE IN BOTH REFTELS. THE MAIN THRUST OF GOB'S VIEW OF LUANDA SUMMIT IS THAT IT WAS A POSITIVE MEETING, AND THAT SWAPO HAS SET ASIDE ALL BUT TWO OBJECTIONS: (A) THE POSITIONING OF SAG
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TROOPS; AND (B) THE QUESTION OF WALVIS BAY. THE FRONTLINE HAS ACCEPTED THE VALIDITY OF THESE LATTER TWO OBJECTIONS; HOWEVER, THE POINT STRESSED BY GOB BRIEFERS WAS THAT THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS TOLD SWAPO THAT IN THE EVENT THEY WERE UNABLE TO OBTAIN COMPLETE SATISFACTION FROM SAG ON EITHER OR BOTH OF THOSE POINTS, THEY SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO WRECK NEGOTIATIONS LEAD-

ING TO INDEPENDENCE. THE NEXT STEP, THEY SAID (NOW THAT NYERERE HAS BRIEFED THE FIVE POWER AMBASSADORS), IS FOR THE LATTER TO GO TO SAG TO INFORM IT OF THE SWAPO AND FRONTLINE POSITION. THEN THE FIVE POWERS WOULD REPORT BACK TO PRESIDENT NYERERE WHO WOULD IN TURN MEET WITH FRONTLINE AND SWAPO. IF ALL WENT WELL, FIVE POWERS WOULD THEN MEET DURENLY WITH SWAPO.

2. UK HIGH COMMISSIONER TURNER IS PLANNING TO DO MORE EXTENSIVE REPORTING CABLE ON THE BRIEFING, REFLECTING OUR JOINT VIEWS. HE WILL HAVE COPY PASSED TO STATE DEPARTMENT.

3. COMMENT: GOB OFFICIALS HAVE RARELY BEEN SO SATISFIED WITH DEVELOPMENTS AT FRONTLINE MEETING AND OPTIMISTIC CONCERNING PROSPECTS FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA.
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